THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, 7th January 1954.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at nine of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Sale of Malabar Handloom products by Marketing Committees.

* 357-A *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the State Government have suggested to the Union Government to entrust to their marketing committees the sale of Malabar Handloom products such as shirtings, coatings, bed-spreads, towels and furnishings; and

(*b*) whether the Government have any proposal to help the pitloom weavers through their Co-operative Societies for the sale of their products such as cheap towels and mundoos, and if so, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Under the schemes formulated for the utilization of Cess Fund allotted to this State it is proposed to bring in more weavers into the co-operative fold and also to open a number of emporia in urban and semi-urban areas to market handloom cloth produced by Co-operative Societies and to allow rebates on the sales of such cloth in order to liquidate accumulation of cloth with the societies. These schemes will be implemented shortly. The pitloom weavers who are already members of Co-operative Societies and also those who are desirous of joining the existing or new societies to be formed under the schemes will be benefited by these schemes."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" In view of the fact that the Ryan Scheme has not benefited Malabar considerably and in view of the fact that the Malabar handloom industry is in a peculiar condition, will the Hon. Minister write to the Central Government to include Malabar also for marketing the handloom products of Malabar so that the unemployment question can be solved? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I am aware, Sir, of the peculiar difficulties of Malabar. When the emporia are opened I am sure there will be more sale of cloth. The Government are also considering, in consultation with other departments, how best we can help the peculiar conditions of Malabar."

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SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Saris and dhoties which are the main products here in Tamil districts are unknown altogether to the handloom industry in Malabar where shirting, coating and such other things are made. In view of this particular difference, would the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of directing the emporia dealing in such stuff to give sufficient propaganda for the handloom products of Malabar? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Yes, Sir. Dhoties and saris produced in other handloom societies are consumed inside our State, while the products of Malabar have a chance of being exported to foreign countries. I am told there is a fairly good market for that. When the emporia are opened we will certainly look into these special conditions."

SRI R. KRISHNAN :—" പിററ് ലൂം വീവേഴ്സിന്റെ സൊസൈററികളിൽ ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്ന ചരക്കുകൾ വളരെയധികം ചിലവാകാതെ കിടപ്പുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ടു അവക്കു ഗവമ്മേണ്ടിൽനിന്നും എന്തെങ്കിലും സബ്സിഡി കൊടുക്കാൻ ഭാവമുണ്ടാകുമോ ? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" A separate question may be put, Sir."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, regarding the pitloom weavers, if the Government reduce the price of the yarn, with the amount which comes on account of this reduction and if the Government give also a subsidy, the pitloom weavers can sell their cloths at cheaper rates so that people can purchase it and the workers also will be benefited. Will the Government be pleased to see to this? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" As I have just answered, cushioning of losses sustained by Co-operative Societies as a result of allowing of rebates on the sale of cloth in order to liquidate accumulation is one of the functions of the Mill cloth cess fund."

The Vaigai Anicut.

* 357-B *Q.*—SRI K. MOOKKIAH THEVAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the exact spot where the foundation for the construction of the Vaigai Anicut is proposed to be laid;

(*b*) the probable date of the foundation laying;

(*c*) whether the foundation will affect adversely a number of villages wholesale;

(*d*) if so, for what radius and the names of the villages to be affected;

(*e*) the number of persons and cattle, etc., to be evacuated on this account;

(*f*) whether alternate village sites have been provided for such villagers; and

(*g*) whether compensation has been promised or provided for such adversely affected villagers?